

ERIC STONESTREET AND THE GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE
STORY PIRATES PERFORM KID-CREATED
SKETCH AND MUSICAL COMEDY FUNDRAISER

*The Pirates and Two-Time Emmy-Award Winning Actor Eric Stonestreet to Perform
An Afternoon of Family Fun*

Proceeds Benefit Geffen Playhouse In-School Education and Outreach Programs

*Sunday, March 17, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. in the Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse
Kid Activities Begin One Hour Prior in the UCLA Chancellors' Lobby*

LOS ANGELES, February 20, 2013 – Two-time Emmy Award winner **Eric Stonestreet** (*Modern Family*, *Identity Thief*) and the **Geffen Playhouse Story Pirates** will present an exclusive one-hour afternoon performance of kids stories perfect for the whole family. Stories from the Pirates' innovative in-school Play/Write Program will be selected and performed live to fans of the two-time Emmy Award winner and the Pirates who have previously produced dozens of events in the Geffen's Theater for Families seasons. The music and comedy-filled afternoon will begin with youth activities and snacks available to all ticket holders one hour prior to the performance in the UCLA Chancellors' Lobby.

This event comes after a slew of sell-out performances of the Pirates' *Flagship Show* and last year's wildly successful family fundraiser *Story Pirates and Friends*. **J.P. Morgan** will once again return as the full underwriter of the event - ensuring all proceeds directly support the Geffen's education and outreach programs.

While many children's theater troupes tell stories to kids, the Geffen Playhouse Story Pirates believe that every story has a child to tell. The process begins by collecting stories from local kids – and whether it's a world where cats can fly or a rock opera about fuzzy alien tickle monsters, the Pirates will turn any short story into a hilarious musical event! Described as "Monty Python meets Schoolhouse Rock," and pitched perfectly to grownups and kids alike, Story Pirates set sail with your whole family on board.

The Geffen Playhouse began its Story Pirates partnership in 2009 as a way to expand the resources of the theater's current in-school initiatives. Story Pirates, originally founded in New York in 2003, works to engage student in under-resourced public schools by showing them that their ideas, their words and their stories are important. As such, the cornerstone of the company is the in-school Play/Write Program, a series of creative writing and drama workshops that lead to a musical sketch comedy show performed by professional actors and comedians and comprised entirely of stories written by kids. As a partner of the Geffen Playhouse, Story Pirates recently opened a West Coast brand and now performs for the general public as part of the Geffen Playhouse's Theater for Families season.

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AN AFTERNOON OF FAMILY FUN

Presented by the Geffen Playhouse Story Pirates

Featuring Eric Stonestreet

Sunday, March 17, 2013

3:00 p.m. Activities/Reception

4:00 p.m. Curtain

In the Gil Cates Theater at the Geffen Playhouse

Presenting Sponsor – J.P. Morgan

Ticket Info

Ticket prices range from \$50-100. VIP and Host Committee packages also available and include souvenirs, program recognition and the choice of a story to be performed. General tickets can be purchased at 310-208-5454 or at www.geffenplayhouse.com. Packages can be purchased through the development department at 310.208.6500 ext. 128.

ABOUT THE GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE

The Geffen Playhouse has been a hub of the Los Angeles theater scene since opening its doors in 1995. Noted for its intimacy and celebrated for its world-renowned mix of classic and contemporary plays, provocative new works and second productions, the Geffen Playhouse continues to present a body of work that has garnered national recognition. Named in honor of entertainment mogul and philanthropist David Geffen, who made the initial donation to the theater, the company was founded by Gilbert Cates, and is currently helmed by Artistic Director Randall Arney, Managing Director Ken Novice and Chairman of the Board Frank Mancuso. Proudly associated with UCLA, the Geffen Playhouse welcomes an audience of more than 130,000 each year, and maintains an extensive education and outreach program, designed to engage young people and the community at large in the arts. For more information, please visit www.geffenplayhouse.com.

ABOUT THE GEFFEN'S EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

The Geffen Playhouse's education and outreach programs seek to make the cultural resources of the theater available to all of Los Angeles' diverse communities. The wide range of programs focus on serving populations in need from ages three to 100 through programs such as Theater for Families, School Tours, Student Matinees and the recently announced Lights Up program. For more information, visit www.geffenplayhouse.com/education.

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